

# **Oakland City / Lakewood LCI Study**

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## **Vision and Goals**

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### **Vision Statement (Draft)**

We envision our community as one of the most desirable locations in the City of Atlanta to live, work, and play: a community of supportive neighborhoods that express their character through quality community gathering places and people- and pedestrian-friendly environments. Our vision is of a community that is sensitive to its historical resources, safe from crime, economically vital, and served by good quality schools.

We envision a community that provides a healthy mix of housing, retail, employment, industrial, and civic places, and that provides housing that is affordable and appropriate for all segments of the community.

We envision a community that provides excellent, convenient, and safe access to its transit facilities by all means of transportation, and that capitalizes on the opportunities of those facilities by encouraging walking, biking, appropriate intensities of development and an efficient mix of uses within transit areas. Our vision is of a highly-connected community that does not exclude anyone from accessing all of its many benefits.

We see a community where people and quality of life are the focus.

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### **Community Goals (Draft)**

#### **Community Character**

1. Revitalize the community by providing affordable housing, promoting economic development, and capitalizing on convenient transportation.
2. Have commercial shops that attract consumers.
3. Address gentrification issues.
4. Encourage good partnerships among different elements of the community: churches, residents, etc.
5. Enhance the “people-friendliness” of the community with appropriate retail activity and community centers
6. Decrease the amount of noise from the railroad into the community.
7. Re-develop Metropolitan Parkway as a major activity “strip”
8. Have mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly development on all major corridors.
9. Increase the number of people supporting the community

#### **Civic Spaces**

1. Bring people together through quality community places and activities.
2. Improve and add to community centers.
3. Include natural elements, such as ponds, as part of public space.
4. Increase the amount of public art in the community.

## **Development**

1. Create a community that is more attractive to development and is “investor-friendly.”
2. Demolish vacant and un-restorable buildings.
3. Develop existing vacant land.
4. Redevelop underutilized light industrial uses.
5. Restore and revitalize former economic activity centers.

## **Education**

1. Increase the amount of community training and education available.
2. Have high quality schools that are a reflection of the community.

## **Housing and Historic Resources**

1. Increase the percentage of owner-occupied housing.
2. Ensure that housing is available for all income levels.
3. Ensure that housing is available for all life-cycle stages.
4. Preserve the existing historic resources of the community.

## **Land Use**

1. Provide appropriate buffers between more intensive and less intensive uses.
2. Increase the mix of uses and density, as appropriate, throughout the community.
3. Increase density around the transit stations.
4. Provide more opportunities for recreation and entertainment.
5. Encourage a “live-work” community.
6. Encourage the adaptive reuse of existing buildings.
7. Provide enough libraries for the community.
8. Promote a healthy mix of uses.

## **Parks and Natural Environment**

1. Have parks that are active and used by the entire community.
2. Develop the creeks and natural areas of the community.

## **Safety**

1. Increase public safety.
2. Remove prostitution and drugs from the community.

## **Transportation**

1. Provide better access through sidewalks and bike paths.
2. Increase connectivity throughout the community.
3. Improve and increase pedestrian connectivity to the transit stations.
4. Provide cost-efficient transportation.
5. Provide handicapped access to all MARTA stations (especially the rear side of the Lakewood/Ft. McPherson Station).
6. Have more people walking and biking throughout the community (especially to MARTA).

7. Have well-lighted, paved, and landscaped streets and sidewalks.

## Urban Design

1. Have more street trees throughout the community.
2. Ensure that all major corridors have quality streetscapes, and are free of above-ground utilities.
3. Have new construction and redevelopment incorporate quality building structures architecture.

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## Public Input: Vision and Goals

The following elements were identified by the community as part of the vision and goals workshop during the 3/17 public meeting (words within parentheses were added for clarification).

Topic	Comment
Character	A community with a strong sense of PLACE
Character	A family-oriented community
Character	Build community pride
Character	Commercial shops that attract consumers
Character	Community partnerships (e.g., Adopt a School program)
Character	Create a revitalized community by providing affordable housing, promoting economic development, and (capitalizing on) convenient transportation.
Character	Establish a cultural atmosphere
Character	Gentrification issues have been addressed
Character	Good partnership among different elements of the community: churches, residents, etc.
Character	Good quality people
Character	Increased people and place-friendly community with retail activity and community centers
Character	Less noise from the railroad into the community
Character	Metropolitan Parkway as a major activity "strip"
Character	Mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly development on major corridors
Character	One of the most desirable locations for housing, retail, and employment within the City of Atlanta
Character	Pedestrian-friendly environment
Character	People supporting the community
Character	Stronger family units
Civic Spaces	Bring people together, through community places and activities
Civic Spaces	Improvement and addition to community centers
Civic Spaces	Include community gathering places
Civic Spaces	Include ponds as part of public space
Civic Spaces	Increased public art
Development	(More) development
Development	An investor-friendly community
Development	Better businesses and schools
Development	Demolition (of vacant and un-restorable buildings)
Development	Develop existing vacant land
Development	Redevelopment of underutilized light industrial uses
Development	Restoration and revitalization of former economic activity centers
Education	Community training and education

Education	Great schools
Education	High quality schools that are a reflection of the community
Historic Resources	Preservation of historic resources
Housing	Higher percentage of owner-occupied housing
Housing	Housing available for all income levels
Housing	Mixed-income, life-cycle housing
Natural Environment	Develop the creeks and natural areas
Parks	Park spaces surrounding historic sites
Parks	People that actively use the existing parks
Safety	(Increased) safety
Safety	A safe community
Safety	No drugs, prostitution, etc.
Transportation	(Better) access
Transportation	(Better) sidewalks
Transportation	(Increased) connectivity
Transportation	(More) bike paths
Transportation	Cost-efficient transportation
Transportation	Good public transportation facilities
Transportation	Handicapped access to all MARTA stations (especially the rear side of the Lakewood/Ft. McPherson Station)
Transportation	Improved and increased pedestrian connectivity to transit stations
Transportation	More people are walking and biking (especially to MARTA)
Transportation	Trails (serving the community)
Transportation	Very accessible
Transportation	Well-lighted, paved, and landscaped streets and sidewalks
Urban Design	(More street) trees
Urban Design	All major corridors have quality streetscapes
Urban Design	Metropolitan Parkway free of above-ground utilities
Urban Design	Quality building structure and quality architecture
Land Use	(Appropriate) buffers (between more intensive and less intensive uses)
Land Use	(Increased) mix of uses and density
Land Use	A community with recreation and entertainment
Land Use	A live-work community
Land Use	Adaptive reuse
Land Use	Appropriate commercial and retail spaces
Land Use	Decreased industrial activity
Land Use	Enough libraries
Land Use	Healthy mix of uses
Land Use	High level of mixed-use activity
Land Use	Increased density around transit stations
Land Use	Places to live, work, and play